

Town of Hunts Point

June 6, 2001

Mr. Aubrey Davis
Chairman, Executive Committee
Trans-Lake Washington Project
P.O. Box 17308
Olympia, WA 98504-7308

Dear Mr. Davis,

I have enjoyed working with the Executive Committee for the past several months, and I commend the Translake staff for their interest, time and cooperation with all members, and especially the Town of Hunts Point. I believe everyone is working in good faith towards a mutually acceptable solution.

The Town of Hunts Point endorses the need for increased capacity through the SR520 corridor. In three weeks, we are expected to vote on the EIS preferred alternatives. The problem with this timing is that we don't know what we will actually receive as we vote on the various options.

From a regional point of view, it is easier to select options that match capacity criteria. From a local point of view, those same decisions translate into alignment decisions, impacts on sensitive areas, and the taking of homes.

After spending months on the process, we have side stepped the controversial issues. Only recently have we seen the potential impact to our communities with the alignment options. We feel this information was released late in the process, and without local input or consideration.

The EIS should mark the conclusion of a selection process, not the beginning. From a local perspective, many components of these options have not been specifically discussed or sorted out.

I have two recommendations for the committee's consideration.

1. That specific enhancement packages need to be tied to each capacity option; less enhancements with the smaller capacity options, more enhancements with the larger capacity options.
2. That the alignment needs to be revised in order to minimize the taking of homes in Hunts Point and Medina.

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These decisions need to be made prior to the vote on preferred alternatives; even if this means deferring the vote for a few more weeks. With these alignment and enhancement elements in place, it may be easier for everyone to support increased capacity options.

I look forward to working with the Translake staff on these issues over the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Fredrick McConkey
Mayor

cc: Jeff Peacock, Parametrics
Patricia Siere, Enviroissues
Translake Executive Committee